

Remarks

Claims 1-10 are currently pending in the patent application.

In response to Examiner's calling for Restriction Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects, with traverse Claims 1-5, Group I. Claims 6-10 have been withdrawn.

Applicant asserts that there would be no undue burden in examining these two sets of claims. Review of the record shows that the claims previously had been examined as a whole. The present claims were amended for the RCE submitted on July 3, 2007.

Applicant asserts that Examiner's argument regarding claim 6 is merely supposition. The scope of the claim has been defined by the feature, "providing a slab of semiconducting material, having a first surface and comprising a buried layer parallel to and below the first surface, the buried layer having an upper surface and a lower surface. The supposition of "instead . . . providing a slab of semiconducting material without a buried layer," Applicant asserts, is insufficient in supporting a Restriction Requirement.

Applicant requests withdrawal of Restriction Requirement and that examination of the case proceed.

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